

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 MADRID 07750 121038Z

21

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00

COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 /066 W

----- 028987

R 091644Z OCT 76

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7500

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

USEC BRUSSELS 2415

USMISSION GENEVA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MADRID 7750

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, PINT, SP

SUBJECT: IFTU EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETS IN MADRID

REF: EC BRUSSELS 09180 (NOTAL)

1. AS FLAGGED IN REFTEL, THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE TWO
AND A HALF MILLION MEMBER IFTU (INTERNATIONAL
FEDERATION OF FREE TEACHERS' UNION) MET IN MADRID
OCTOBER 5-7. THE US WAS REPRESENTED BY AFL-CIO VICE
PRESIDENT ALBERT SHANKER (PRESIDENT OF THE 460,000 STRONG
AFT - AMERICAN FEDERATION OF TEACHERS) AND IFTU VICE
PRESIDENT JAMES O'MEARA (AFT VICE PRESIDENT FROM CLEVELAND).
OTHER PARTICIPANTS INCLUDED IFTU PRESIDENT E. FRISTER
(WEST GERMANY), IFTU SECGEN BRACONIER (BELGIUM), HERRERA
MURILLO (COSTA RICE), ASHILEY (GHANA), GURNAM
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 MADRID 07750 121038Z

SINGH (MALAYSIA), AND GUILLOT (FRANCE).

2. SPEAKING TO THE PRESS AFTER THE CLOSING SESSION OCTOBER 7, FRISTER MADE THE FOLLOWING POINTS. HE WAS PLEASED THAT THE POLITICAL CLIMATE IN SPAIN WAS NOW SUCH THAT THE MEETING COULD BE HELD IN MADRID. THE IFFTU WAS LOOKING FORWARD TO THE ADVENT OF COMPLETE TRADE UNION FREEDOM, WITHOUT WHICH SPAIN COULD NOT ENTER INTO THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY. THE IFFTU PRESENCE IN MADRID WAS AN INDICATION OF THE ORGANIZATIONS'S SUPPORT FOR THE UGT'S TEACHERS' FEDERATION (FETE - FEDERACION DE TRABAJADORES DE ENSEÑANZA) AND THE PARENT SOCIALIST UGT. FINALLY, WITH REGARD TO THE ITEMS DISCUSSED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE DURING ITS MEETING, FRISTER REPORTED THAT THEY CONCENTRATED ON FINANCIAL QUESTIONS AND RELATIONS WITH ILO, UNESCO, AND OECD. IN RESPONSE, FETE SPOKESMAN CELESTINO ARENAL STATED HE WISHED PUBLICLY TO THANK THE IFFTU FOR HOLDING ITS MEETING IN MADRID, THEREBY LENDING IMPORTANT SUPPORT DURING THE DIFFICULT TRANSITION PERIOD WHICH SPANISH LABOR IS GOING THROUGH.

3. SHANKER CONFIRMED TO LABATT OCTOBER 7 THAT THE MEETING HAD FOCUSED ON PROBLEMS CAUSED BY THE POLITICIZING OF SUCH UN INDEPENDENT AGENCIES AS ILO, WHO, AND UNESCO, AND HAD ALSO DEVOTED CONSIDERABLE TIME TO THE PROBLEMS OF THEIR AFFILIATES IN DEVELOPING NATIONS. HE EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH THE MEETING'S WORK.

4. SHANKER ALSO TOOK OCCASION TO VOICE CONCERN ABOUT THE APPARENT COOPERATION BETWEEN THE CONSERVATIVE WFTP (WORLD FEDERATION OF THE TEACHING PROFESSION) - INCLUDING ITS U.S. AFFILIATE, NEA - AND THE COMMUNIST WFTU. WITH RESPECT TO THE LOCAL SPANISH LABOR SCENE, HE HAD HAD CONSIDERABLE OPPORTUNITY TO EXCHANGE VIEWS WITH FETE AND UGT OFFICERS (INCLUDING UGT SEC GEN NICOLAS REDONDO). THE AFT INTENDED TO STUDY THE QUESTION OF HOW BEST THEY COULD ASSIST THEIR SPANISH BROTHERS. IN THE MEANTIME, SHANKER HAD CHARGED THE AFT'S SMALL BUT ACTIVE US LOCAL AT TORREJON AFB TO MAINTAIN CLOSE CONTACT WITH THE FETE.

EATON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 MADRID 07750 121038Z

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LABOR UNIONS, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, TEACHERS, MEETING REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 OCT 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MADRID07750
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760383-0005
From: MADRID
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761064/aaaaceac.tel
Line Count: 107
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 EC BRUSSELS 9180
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05 APR 2004 by ElyME>; APPROVED <10 AUG 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: IFFTU EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETS IN MADRID
TAGS: ELAB, PINT, SP, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006